

March 14, 1996

LB 908, 909, 921, 933, 967, 973, 1001, 1002
1007, 1008, 1035, 1038, 1040, 1189

going to oppose this and I...we did not have it in...as an issue in the committee, first of all, so I am not that familiar with it. I am going to speak, I guess, philosophically. I do not want to deny the need for something such as this, but I do have a concern, philosophically, as to whether we can do in-service training for teaching teachers to teach braille in...simply doing it this way. I don't know that. Obviously, the Nebraska City School for Visually Handicapped is in my district at Nebraska City. To me, that's one of the strong points because it is able to teach braille and has done, as long as I know. I don't know whether providing in-training...teacher in-service training to teachers is adequate. I do know in some schools that I know there has been a full-time braille instructor with a blind student for a whole year. And I...I am not sure that this is an efficient way to go. I guess those of you in education may understand it better than I. We, in the Appropriations Committee, have made a decision. Generally, in all our decisions, we were not funding anything that was not of an emergency nature. So even from that standpoint, I would oppose this at this time. It may be properly...need to be considered some time. I am not prepared to give item by item opposition to it, but I guess I do oppose any additions to the budget that really are not of true need. I was not...I assume this is a bill, Senator Schimek, so there has been a hearing on it. I guess those of you in education might speak more eloquently to that, and the need for it, and whether it would work, but, off hand at this point, without knowing more, I definitely am going to oppose it simply on the basis of not adding to the budget in the midterm on something that has a long-term impact, some of which is unknown in terms of cost.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. I would announce that while the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I would propose to sign and do sign LB 908, LB 909, LB 921, LB 933, LB 967, LB 973, LB 1001, LB 1002, LB 1007, LB 1008, LB 1035, LB 1038, LB 1040. Also very pleased to recognize, Senator Lynch has some guests under the south balcony. We have a good friend of a lot of us, Danny Lynch is here today, along with Dan Gaspers, Mark Fitzpatrick and Aaron Green from the Quality Living staff. Very pleased to have all of you here today. Senator Sohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. President, members, I rise in support of Senator Schimek's amendment and to explain a little bit that